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mortality according to geographical position and density of population is discussed.

#### SECTION B.

This part of the work deals entirely with the wandering of population in Frankfurt during the year 1891, and as such does not necessarily belong to a report on vital statistics. In a city registration report, however, it is of the greatest importance, and a word or so about the plan of this part of the Frankfurt report may not be out of place.

The following subjects are minutely illustrated by tables of statistics and by summaries: (a) Emigration and immigration according to month, calling, and section of the city; (b) migration according to sex, age, and family position; (c) migration according to natality, nativity, and object of change. In addition to these topics the questions of previous habitation in Frankfurt, the length of time abroad, and the number of returns, etc., are minutely treated.

The report, with its 43 large tables, besides many lesser ones in the text, is a monument of statistical care and thoroughness, and its method of treatment is such as to make it interesting to the ordinary reader.

GARY N. CALKINS.

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#### ILLEGITIMACY; TWO STUDIES IN DEMOGRAPHY.

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*Illegitimacy, and the Influence of Seasons upon Conduct; Two Studies in Demography.* By Albert Leffingwell, M.D. With maps and diagrams. 2nd edition. London. Swan, Sonnenschein & Co.

The writer states that this is the first treatise on illegitimacy in the English language. Its pages are mainly devoted to a consideration of the illegitimate births in the British Islands, while the second essay presents certain phenomena of periodicity in human conduct and mental disease.

After discussing in order the different imputed causes which have prevailed, the author concludes that neither *poverty*, nor *city life*, nor *education* have had any effect upon the rate of illegitimacy. He also takes up the effect of religion, of legislative and legal impediments to marriage, and of heredity, and concludes that the factor of heredity is one of the most potent in its influence upon this departure from social morality.

Not only do the three principal divisions of England present radical differences in the degrees of illegitimacy in each, but different districts often adjoining each other also present still greater differences.

The ratio of illegitimacy per 1000 births in England, Ireland, and Scotland for 12 years, ending with 1889, was as follows:—

Ireland, . . . . .	26.5
England and Wales, . . . .	47.6
Scotland, . . . . .	82.7

Scotland has then a ratio nearly twice as great as that of England, and more than three times as large as that of Ireland. “What conclusions,” says the author, “are we to gather from these facts? That the peasant mother of Ireland is more solicitous for the chastity of her daughters than her sisterhood of Scotland and England? Are the precepts of virtue more highly prized and effectively inculcated in the mud cabins of Mayo than beneath the thatched roof of the Highland cotter? Or is superior virtue the result of education? But the Irish peasantry are steeped in ignorance as compared with the laboring population of North Britain. Shall we infer that vice and poverty go hand in hand? But an Englishman would not kennel his dogs in such cabins as I have seen in Achill and western Ireland. Can it be the effect of religious training and influence? But Scotland rejoices in the open Bible and the right to private judgment, while Ireland submits her conscience to the control of her priesthood and the guidance of an Infallible Church.”

In tracing the rate of illegitimacy more minutely he shows that in the county of Down in Ulster, Ireland, the illegitimate birth rate was 51.1, while in county Mayo, in Connaught, it was only 5.6. In the north-eastern counties of Scotland, including Banff and Aberdeen, it was 141, while in the north-western counties (Ross, Cromarty, and Inverness) it was 64, and these ratios were fairly constant from year to year.

In Massachusetts the average ratio for the 20 years 1871–90 was 17.1 per 1000 births. The rate increased till 1887 when it was 21.8, and since then it has decreased to 15 in 1892.

The figures for the counties for the ten years 1881–90 were as follows:—

Barnstable, . . . . .	20.2	Hampshire, . . . . .	10.1
Berkshire, . . . . .	9.7	Middlesex, . . . . .	14.6
Bristol, . . . . .	8.8	Nantucket,* . . . . .	37.6
Dukes,* . . . . .	29.1	Norfolk, . . . . .	7.4
Essex, . . . . .	11.1	Plymouth, . . . . .	11.9
Franklin, . . . . .	9.9	Suffolk, . . . . .	46.1
Hampden, . . . . .	8.8	Worcester, . . . . .	7.1
Massachusetts, . . . . .		19.4	

\* Five years only.

S. W. A.

# CITY OF BOSTON BILLS OF MORTALITY, 1810-49.

*Bills of Mortality, 1810-49. City of Boston. With an Essay on the Vital Statistics of Boston from 1810 to 1841.* By Lemuel Shattuck. Boston. Reprinted for the Registry Department. 1893.

The great rarity of American vital statistics for the first half of the present century makes this volume an exceedingly interesting one to the statistician. Mr. Whitmore, the City Registrar of Boston, has accomplished a useful service in republishing the paper of Mr. Shattuck, which, like the later Report of the Sanitary Commission of 1850 (also the work of Mr. Shattuck), is a document of much value.

The following estimates of the population are also presented for decades in the 18th century: —

	1725-34.	1735-44.	1745-54.	1755-64.	1765-74.
Average Population, White....	11,900	14,750	14,190	14,390	14,672
“ “ Black ....	1,100	1,250	1,541	1,241	848
Total.....	13,000	16,000	15,731	15,631	15,520
Average annual mortality.....	502	570	671	514	521
Death rate per 1,000.....	38.6	35.6	42.6	32.8	33.5

Statistics of small-pox show that in 1721 more than half the population of Boston were sick with this loathsome disease, and 844, or 7.7 per cent of the population, died of the same disease. Tables are presented giving the distribution of the population by age, sex, and color at different periods from 1765 to 1830, also the increase of